

Dear Veterans, Military Families and Supporters,

Please find a number of resources below to benefit veterans and military families. They are not endorsed by my office, just a compilation of programs and services that come across my desk. Please feel free to share and vet according to your needs. If you have anything you would like me to share, please forward it. Thank you.

Lisa Terry

[Student Loan Fair](#) and Webcast – Tonite!!

Jan 18, 6:30pm at Howard Community College

A panel of local, state and federal experts will answer questions about how to pay for college and shop for student loans. Visit the RESOURCE FAIR before and after the program for comprehensive information and one-on-one consultations.

[United Seniors of Maryland and AARP](#)

Maryland Legislative Forum

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

[Employer Day on Fort Meade](#)

January 26, 11am-1pm

Transitioning service members have the opportunity to connect with local employers looking for skilled candidates to fill current and future vacancies.

[Education and the Economy - Locally and Globally](#) – HCPSS and Bright Minds Foundation
luncheon Feb 9, 11:30am-1:30m Turf Valley

Free Flu Shots for Veterans

The cold and flu season is upon us and the Department of Veterans Affairs has once again teamed up with Walgreens Pharmacies nationwide to allow all veterans who are currently enrolled in the VA healthcare system to be able walk into any of the over 8000 Walgreens nationally (and the Duane Reade pharmacies in the New York metropolitan area) to receive a vaccination at no cost. Vaccinations will be available through 3/31/17.

Veterans wishing to receive the no cost vaccination simply need to present a Veterans Identification Card and a photo ID, at any participating Walgreens to receive the vaccination. In addition, after the Walgreens pharmacist administers the vaccine, Walgreens will transmit that information securely to VA where it becomes part of the patient's electronic medical record.

VA is committed to keeping Veteran patients healthy, and during this flu season, vaccination is the best way to prevent the spread of flu. No matter where you live, visit your local VA clinic or Walgreens to get a free flu shot.

- To find your local VA, visitva.gov/directory/guide/home.asp
- To locate a Walgreens store near you, call 800-WALGREENs (800-925-4733), or gotocom/findastore
- To learn more about the partnership, call 1-877-771-8537 or visit ehealth.va.gov/Immunization.asp
- To get more information on flu and flu vaccine, visit publichealth.va.gov/flu or www.cdc.gov/flu

[National Veterans Creative Arts Festival](#)

February 16, 1-4pm

Perry Point Theatre

Entry Paperwork deadline Jan 20

Must be enrolled in VA Medical System

Howard County Veteran Resource Fair – Vendors Wanted

Vendor applications are now being accepted for Howard County's annual Veterans Resource Fair on Tuesday, April 4 from 5:00 to 8:00p.m. at the 50+ Center (next to Miller Branch Library), 9401 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21042

If your organization or business provides services, resources or employment opportunities for veterans or military families, we invite you to participate in this free event. While geared toward veterans living in Howard County, all veterans are invited to attend.

If your organization is interested in participating, please contact the Office of Veterans and Military Families at 410-313-0821 or lbterry@howardcountymd.gov

Parent Pages – a great resource for parents with children of all ages including programs, events and helpful information inc upcoming Childcare and Preschool Information Fair

NAMI News - National Alliance on Mental Illness programs and services

Ft. Meade Financial Focus – January 2017 – Lots of great resources and tips

VetJobs Veteran Eagle Newsletter, Jan 2017 – job listings, resources, military information and more

Fort Meade Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program 2017 schedule – open to transitioning military, military spouses and veterans

Fort Meade Army Community Services and Fleet and Family Support Employment Readiness Schedule – offers classes, workshops and events to DoD ID cardholders; Active

Duty, Retirees, Family members, DoD civilians, and Fort Meade contractors. All classes are free!

[Howard County 50+ Connection Newsletter – Jan 2017](#)

Press Release – Proceeds from book will benefit veteran organizations

January 18, 2017

Alexandria, VA - In November 2016, Author, Entrepreneur, Educator and Globalnaire, Dr. Timothy D. Wilson, set out on a personal humanitarian expedition capturing the life, culture, people, nature, and the environmental landscape of East African countries, which include Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Tanzania, Madagascar, and the pristine sands of Seychelles. He covered more than 31,000 miles in a 65-day period, and a plethora of cities, talking, meeting, and interacting cross culturally within the diversity rich environment of Africa.

Spurred by his commitment and contributions to support the military veteran community, which has become a vulnerable population, as well as his vast international humanitarian efforts, this project will serve several purposes. Dr. Wilson will compile more than 10,000 high definition photographic images and publish an exquisite coffee table book in late 2017. Limited photos will be available on his business website as well. A portion of the proceeds from these sales will go to select veteran organizations.

The campaign for the East African Expedition is actively soliciting donations and organizational support via the Crowd Funding webpage Kickstarter link (Pledge Support) at the bottom of this press release.

For more information or booking inquiries, please contact Media Representative, D'edra Y. Armstrong at [\(732\) 213-4983](tel:7322134983) or via email at SpeakWritePub@aol.com.

You can also visit the website at www.TimothyDWilson.com for more information on Dr. Wilson as well as supplemental information on the East African Expedition.

[PLEDGE SUPPORT HERE](#)

Thank you for your support in advance,

Respectfully,

Dr. Timothy D. Wilson, DBA

[LEARN MORE](#)
[INSTAGRAM](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[New Law Authorizes Veterans' Salutes during National Anthem](#) - Veterans and active-duty military not in uniform can now render the military-style hand salute during the playing of the national anthem, thanks to changes in federal law that took effect this month.

[American Legion leads memorial inventory effort](#)

[100 Cities / 100 Memorials A National Matching Grant Challenge To Preserve WWI Memorials](#)

[AAFES to open online shopping to military Veterans on Veterans Day 2017](#)

[MDVA Newsletter, January 13, 2017](#)

The Howard County Police Department will be testing for the position of [Entry Level](#) and [Lateral Police Officer](#) on February 7th and 11th and March 7th and 11th

Please see the attached flyer for detailed information.

-The attached test dates are for Academy Class 42, to be held in 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.HCPD.ORG OR CALL THE RECRUITING OFFICE AT 410-313-HCPD.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is committed to providing Veterans with quality, safe and compassionate health care in a timely manner. To that end, we are amending provider regulations to permit full practice authority to three roles of VA advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) to practice to the full extent of their education, training, and certification, regardless of State restrictions that limit such full practice authority, except for applicable State restrictions on the authority to prescribe and administer controlled substances, when such APRNs are acting within the scope of their VA employment.

“Advanced practice registered nurses are valuable members of VA’s health care system,” said VA Under Secretary for Health Dr. David J. Shulkin. “Amending this regulation increases our capacity to provide timely, efficient, effective and safe primary care, aids VA in making the most efficient use of APRN staff capabilities, and provides a degree of much needed experience to alleviate the current access challenges that are affecting VA.”

The proposed rule stated that VA would grant full practice authority to the four APRN roles. Though VA does have some localized issues, we do not have immediate and broad access challenges in the area of anesthesia care across the full VA health care system that require full practice authority for all Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). Therefore, VA will not finalize the provision including CRNAs in the final rule as one of the APRN roles that may be granted full practice authority at this time. However, VA CRNAs that are granted full practice authority by their state license will continue to practice in VA in accordance with their state license and subject to credentialing and privileging by their VA medical facility’s medical executive committee. VA will not restrict or eliminate these CRNAs’ full practice authority.

VA will request comment on the question of whether there are current anesthesia care access issues for particular states or VA facilities and whether permitting CRNAs to practice to the full extent of their advanced authority would resolve these issues.

“CRNAs provide an invaluable service to our Veterans,” Under Secretary for Health Shulkin continued. “Though CRNAs will not be included in VA’s full practice authority under this final

rule, we are requesting comments on whether there are access issues or other unconsidered circumstances that might warrant their inclusion in a future rulemaking. In the meantime, we owe it to Veterans to increase access to care in areas where we know we have immediate and broad access challenges.”

If VA learns of access problems in the area of anesthesia care in specific facilities or more generally that would benefit from advanced practice authority, now or in the future, or if other relevant circumstances change, we will consider a follow-up rulemaking to address granting full practice authority to CRNAs.

The final rule can be found on the Federal Register [website](#).

Key Facts:

- As an integrated Federal health care system with the responsibility to provide comprehensive care under 38 U.S.C. 7301, it is essential that VHA wisely manage its resources and fully utilize the skills of its health care providers to the full extent of their education, training, and certification. By permitting some APRNs throughout the VHA system with a way to achieve full practice authority in order to provide advanced nursing services to the full extent of their professional competence, VHA furthers its statutory mandate to provide quality health care to our nation’s Veterans.
- The services provided by an APRN under full practice authority in VA are consistent with the nursing profession’s standards of practice for such roles. This rulemaking increases Veterans’ access to VA health care by expanding the pool of qualified health care professionals who are authorized to provide primary health care and other related health care services to the full extent of their education, training, and certification, without the clinical supervision of physicians, and it permits VA to use its health care resources more effectively and in a manner that is consistent with the role of APRNs in the non-VA health care sector, while maintaining the patient-centered, safe, high-quality health care that Veterans receive from VA.
- In this rulemaking, VA is exercising Federal preemption of State nursing licensure laws to the extent such State laws conflict with the full practice authority granted to VA APRNs while acting within the scope of their VA employment. Preemption is the minimum necessary action for VA to allow APRNs full practice authority.
- A significant number of states have approved full practice authority for NPs and CRNAs, with many VA Medical Centers successfully utilizing APRNs to the full extent of their education and training.
- Standardization of APRN full practice authority, without regard for individual State practice regulations, helps to ensure a consistent delivery of health care across VHA by decreasing the variability in APRN practice that currently exists as a result of disparate State practice regulations.
- Standardization of APRN full practice authority also aids VA in making the most efficient use of VHA APRN staff capabilities, which increases VA’s capacity to provide timely, efficient, and effective primary care services, as well as other

services. This increases Veteran access to needed VA health care, particularly in medically-underserved areas and decreases the amount of time Veterans spend waiting for patient appointments.

- In addition, standardizing APRN practice authority enables Veterans, their families, and caregivers to understand more readily the health care services that VA APRNs are authorized to provide.
- This preemptive rule increases access to care and reduces the wait times for VA appointments utilizing the current workforce already in place.
- As of July 2016, VA has approximately 93,500 nurses (RNs, LPNs, NAs); included in that number is approximately 5,769 APRNs.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 13, 2017

VA's Rule Establishes a Presumption of Service Connection for Diseases Associated with Exposure to Contaminants in the Water Supply at Camp Lejeune

VA to provide disability benefits for related diseases

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has published regulations to establish presumptions for the service connection of eight diseases associated with exposure to contaminants in the water supply at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The presumption of service connection applies to active duty, reserve and National Guard members who served at Camp Lejeune for a minimum of 30 days (cumulative) between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987, and are diagnosed with any of the following conditions:

- adult leukemia
- aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes
- bladder cancer
- kidney cancer
- liver cancer
- multiple myeloma
- non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Parkinson's disease

"We have a responsibility to take care of those who have served our Nation and have been exposed to harm as a result of that service," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald. "Establishing a presumption for service at Camp Lejeune will make it easier for those Veterans to receive the care and benefits they earned."

Environmental health experts in VA's Technical Workgroup conducted comprehensive reviews of scientific evidence, which included analysis and research done by the Department of Health

and Human Service's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), the Environmental Protection Agency, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, the National Toxicology Program, and the National Academies of Science.

Veterans with 30 or more cumulative days of active duty service, at Camp Lejeune during the contamination period are already eligible for certain medical benefits, following passage of the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012.

In the early 1980s, volatile organic compounds, trichloroethylene (TCE), a metal degreaser, and perchloroethylene (PCE), a dry cleaning agent, as well as benzene and vinyl chloride, were discovered in two on-base water supply systems at Camp Lejeune. The contaminated wells supplying the water systems were shut down in February 1985.

[Camp+Lejeune+Water+Supply-News+Release.docx](#)

[Camp+Lejeune+Water+Supply-Fact+Sheet.docx](#)

Support Organizations

Alcoholics Anonymous

Various Locations

(410) 997-2288

www.thealanoclub.org

Support group for individuals who abuse alcohol. Recovering addicts meet regularly to help each other stay drug free. Call for days and times of meetings. There is only one requirement for membership, the desire to stop using alcohol.

Confidential services. Free.

AmeriCorps Statewide

(800) 942-2677

www.nationalservice.gov/programs/ameriCorps

Build your resume; Local service programs that hire individuals from all backgrounds for paid community service. AmeriCorps State and National members are given a living allowance; health care; childcare, and education award upon

successful completion of the program. Jobs available across Maryland and the U.S. Call for more information.

AMVETS

Various Locations

(301) 683-

4032

http://www.amvets.org/amvets-near-you/#map_top

Assistance for Veterans. Employment assistance, resume building, vocational training, educational services. Free.

Celebrate Recovery

6080 Foreland Garth

Columbia, MD 21045

(410) 997-

2088

www.wininlife.com

12 Step/Recovery, support and prayer groups. Dinner provided. Fridays at 6 p.m. Free.

Support Group

Columbia Addictions Center

5570 Sterrett Place,

Suite 205 Columbia, MD

21044

(410) 730-1333

www.columbiaaddictions.com

Intensive/Standard Outpatient substance abuse treatment, Buprenorphine Assistance. Sliding scale. Accepts Medicaid.

Substance Abuse

Columbia Workforce Center

7161 Columbia Gateway Drive

Columbia, MD 21046

(410) 290-2600

www.dllr.state.md.us/county/

One Stop Job Center offering career exploration, referrals to training programs, resume preparation, and workshops to enhance job seeking skills and work readiness. Access computers with Internet access, printers, photocopiers, fax

machines, telephones, and a variety of job search resource materials. Free.

Domestic Violence Center of Howard County

Call for Services

(410) 997-2272

www.wearehopeworks.org

Provides comprehensive services for survivors, individual and group counseling, emergency and transitional shelter, legal advice, information, referral, accompaniment and representation in court, an abuser intervention program and

prevention services. Confidential. Free.

Family Crisis Center, Inc.

Statewide. Call for Locations.

(301) 731-1203

www.familycrisisresourcecenter.org

Provides immediate crisis intervention through compassionate support, community resources, referrals to other helping agencies, and when appropriate, access to Safe Passage Emergency Safe House. Confidential. Free.

Referral

Healthcare Access Maryland

Call to enroll.

(877)223-5201

www.healthcareaccessmaryland.org

Medicaid enrollment throughout the year.

Homes for America

318 Sixth Street, Suite 2

Annapolis, MD 21403

(410) 269-1222

www.homesforamerica.org

Affordable rental housing that serves low and moderate income households, seniors and persons with special needs. Statewide. Free eligibility screening.

No current homes in Howard County but donations welcome.

Howard County Department of Social Services

7121 Columbia Gateway

Drive Columbia, Maryland

21046

(410) 872-8700

<http://dhr.maryland.gov/local-offices/howard-county/>

Referral Service; Emergency Food Assistance, Housing,
Identification, Emergency Cash Assistance, Food Stamps,
Medical Coverage

Howard County Office on Aging/Maryland Access Point

6751 Columbia Gateway

Drive, Suite 200 Columbia, MD 21046

(410) 313-6410

www.howardcountyaging.org

Referral Service; Assisted Living Housing assistance, Identification, Emergency Cash
Assistance, Food Stamps,

Medical Coverage for Seniors. Free.

Howard Integrative Counseling, LLC

10630 Little Patuxent Parkway, Suite 209

Columbia, MD 21044

(410) 740-8066

www.congruentcounseling.com

Intensive/Standard Outpatient substance abuse and mental health treatment, counseling, anger
management, Buprenorphine assistance. Accepts Medicaid.

Substance Abuse & Mental Health

Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling

Various Locations

(800) 522-4700

(24 Hour

Helpline)/(667) 214-2120

www.mdproblemgambling.com

Gamblers Anonymous. Support groups. Call or visit website
for meeting time and locations. Free. Confidential.

Support Group

Maryland Commission on Civil Rights

6 Saint Paul Street, Suite 900

Baltimore, MD 21202

(410) 767-8050

www.mccr.maryland.gov

Assists with employment, housing, commercial and disability
discrimination. Statewide. Call to file a complaint.

Legal

Maryland Volunteer Legal Services

201 North Charles Street

Suite 1400

Baltimore, MD 21201

(800) 510-0050 Intake

www.mvlslaw.org

Legal assistance to Marylanders with limited income at low or no cost. Assistance with
expungement, divorce, wage claims,

unemployment compensation, home foreclosure, child custody, consumer debt or tax disputes.
Statewide. Intake phone hours Mon-Thurs 9-12.

Legal

MD Dept. of Public Safety & Correctional Services-

Parole & Probation

3451 Courthouse Drive

Ellicott City, MD 21043

(410) 480-7920

www.dpscs.state.md.us/locations

Ellicott City Parole and Probation Office and Drinking and Driving Monitoring Program.

Parole & Probation

Muslimat Al Nisaa Shelter

Call for shelter intake

(410) 466-8686

www.mnisaa.org

Baltimore City Faith-based shelter home environment for Muslim and refugee women and children and Muslim women

victims of domestic violence. Free. Call for more information.

Shelter

NAMI Statewide

(410) 884-8691

www.namimd.org

Mental health organization offering services including peer support, education and outreach programs, and engage

mental health advocates. Free.

Mental Health

Narcotics Anonymous

Call for Locations

(800) 543-4670

www.cprna.org

Support group for individuals who abuse narcotics, cocaine, heroin, marijuana, pills, and any other substance. Recovering

addicts meet regularly to help each other stay drug free. Call for days and times of meetings. There is only one requirement for membership, the desire to stop using drugs.

Confidential services. Free.

Support Group

Prison Outreach Ministry

Statewide. Call for Locations.

(202) 772-4300, ext. 040

Mentoring for returning citizens. Call for more information.

Free

Education

Project Encompass, Inc.

9832 Lyon Avenue

Laurel, MD 20723

(678) 635-6124

www.projectencompass.org

Transitional housing with services including mentoring, 12 step support groups, counseling, job readiness and interpersonal skill training. Women only. Call for more

information.

Housing

SHARE Program

(301) 864-3115

www.sharedc.org

Discount food. (Pay \$20 for \$40-45 of groceries, EBT welcome, local sites in DC and MD.) Call for locations.

Food

Silverman Treatment Solutions

8930 Stanford Blvd, Suite

M100 Columbia, MD 21045

(443) 285-0807/(443) 766-9805

(After hours)

www.silvermantreatment.com

Detox-Outpatient, Intensive/Standard Outpatient substance abuse treatment. Methadone and Buprenorphine

Assistance. Accepts Medicaid.

Substance Abuse

United Way of Central Maryland

Statewide

Dial 211

www.211md.org

Comprehensive referral line with links to over 4,000 health and human service programs throughout Maryland. Free.

[Mesothelioma Guide](#), an advocacy organization dedicated to helping patients with asbestos illnesses. They specialize in assisting patients in understanding which treatment options are best suited for their illness, as well as how to find the right doctors that provide those treatment options. A

Veterans make up the single largest group of people affected by asbestos illnesses, comprising almost 1/3 of all diagnoses each year. In fact, approximately 6,000 veterans afflicted with this asbestos-caused cancer died between 1999 and 2005 alone, many of whom never filed for their earned VA benefits. The VA Claims Agent specializes in assisting veterans file for their VA benefits when they have been diagnosed with an asbestos illness as a result of their military service, and has assisted over 1200 veterans file for, and get approved for VA Disability Compensation. Patient assistance is free and for more information, contact carljewett@mesotheliomaguide.com or 844-VET-MESO, 844-838-6376

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Administrative Professionals Needed – Disabled veterans please apply

The US Dept of Agriculture is in dire need of Administrative Professionals. There is no link or vacancy announcement because the positions are for Non-Competitive Hire.

If you are interested and you are 30% or more disabled or have a Schedule A letter, please forward your resume, DD Form 214, and VA Letter or Schedule A documentation to me ASAP to be considered.



Roslyn Jones
Regional Veteran Employment Representative
Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning
Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation
3637 Offut Road
Randallstown, MD 21133
roslyn.jones@maryland.gov
410-887-0377 (Office)
443-462-7867 (cell)
